

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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13

ACTION EA-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 PRS-01 /005 W

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O R 090540Z OCT 74 ZFF RUEHFO

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO USINFO WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7991

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

SECDEF WASHDRDXOASD/PA

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 13542

USINFO ALSO FOR VOA NEWSROOM, IOP/FW AND IEA

BANGKOK FOR HEDGES

BANGKOK, HONG KONG AND SAIGON FOR VOA CORRESPONDENTS

STATE FOR S/PRS AND EA/P

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: KHMER SITUATIONER, OCTOBER 9, 1974

1. DURING THE PAST DAY FIGHTING CONTINUED AT THE SAME
LEVEL AS EARLIER IN THE WEEK.

2. TWO FANK TASK FORCES, ONE MOVING EASTWARD FROM
PURSAT AND ONE MOVING WESTWARD ALONG ROUTE FIVE, ARE
EN ROUTE TO DISLODGE KHMER COMMUNIST FORCES WHO HAVE
MADE A NEW CUT ON HIGHWAY FIVE, APPROXIMATELY 45
KILOMETERS EAST OF PURSAT AND APPROXIMATELY HALF-WAY
TO KOMPONG CHHNANG. THE NEW BREACH IN THIS VITAL
ARTERY IS NOW 4 1/2 KILOMETERS LONG.

3. PHNOM PENH REMAINED QUIET. TO THE NORTHEAST THERE WAS
ONE ENGAGEMENT IN A FANK SWEEP OPERATION DESIGNED TO CLEAR
OUT POTENTIAL ROCKET-LAUNCHING SITES HELD BY THE ENEMY.
A SIMILAR EFFORT WAS UNDERWAY IN THE SOUTHEAST, BETWEEN THE
BASSAC RIVER AND THE MEKONG RIVER. ELSEWHERE IN THE BASSAC THERE
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HAS BEEN LITTLE PROGRESS AND SEVERAL ENEMY ATTACKS. TO THE

SOUTHWEST ANOTHER FANK OPERATION EMPLOYING THREE BRIGADES IS IN PROGRESS. AND, TO THE NORTHWEST THERE ARE REPEATED ENEMY MORTAR ATTACKS.

4. SVAY RIENG REPORTS ENEMY ATTACKS ALL AROUND THE CITY'S DEFENSE PERIMTER. THREE SMALL FANK POSITIONS HAVE BEEN OVERRUN. FIVE ENEMY KILLED ARE REPORTED IN THIS ACTION.

5. IN THE BANAM AREA FANK HAS LAUNCHED AN OPERATION TO RETAKE SEVERAL POSITIONS RECENTLY LOST TO KHMER COMMUNIST FORCES.

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